

KICK IT OVER

No. 9 • HEALTH ISSUE • DECEMBER 1983 • 75 cents



THIS ISSUE:

- Art of War
- Illegal Herbs?
- Women and Therapy
- Peace Movement?
- Native Spiritual Struggle



Emma Goldman (1869-1940): Anarchist, feminist, birth control advocate and midwife.
"Women need not always keep their mouths shut and their wombs open."

KICK IT OVER – No. 9 DECEMBER 1983 – 75 cents

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KICK IT OVER

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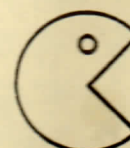
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1960-1970



1970-1980



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Whither the Peace Movement?

by Alexandra Devon

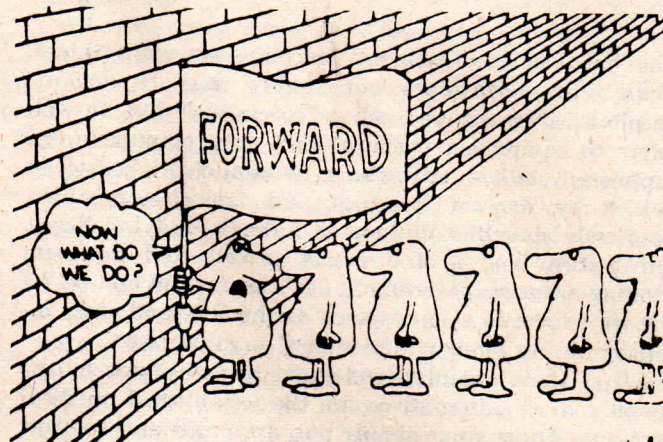
At the recent panel discussion in Toronto on where the peace movement should be going, it became clear that three of the four panelists were suggesting a remarkably innovative "vote for peace" campaign. With straight faces, no less, the three, including a politician, John Sewell, exhorted the audience to get "back into the riding offices", get to know the politicians' buddies, campaign and vote with vigour. This meeting, which was very well attended, is significant in that it shows one way that a somewhat weary and pragmatic section of the peace movement might go, is going, in fact as the proposed "Peace Caravan" demonstrates. That the majority of the peace movement might go in this imaginative direction is a more disturbing possibility.

For those of us who are inclined to believe that, "If voting could really change the way things are, it would be illegal", the shortcomings of this particular method are obvious. Besides, politicians are already aware that a lot of the people who have been clogging the streets in disarmament demos are voters and if this weren't enough there are numerous opinion polls to make the point even more clearly. So putting aside these petty objections, let's look at why this strategy is gaining ground.

Peace is becoming more of a mainstream issue. It's significant that less than a year after "If You Love This Planet" is nearly banned as propaganda in the U.S., "The Day After" is shown on prime time U.S. television. Politicians, even the most hawkish, pepper their speeches with references to peace although one senses a slight gagging as their mouths form the words. There are increasing numbers of professional and neighborhood groups and ordinary citizens marching for peace. All of this has positive and negative aspects. The extent to which all kinds of people are awakening (all but the most sound sleepers) to the threat of nuclear war is positive. However, there are real dangers when movements grow quickly and largely disconnected from their roots (i.e. radical analysis); they are more easily co-opted and tend to be more conservative.

This is not to say that the peace movement or movements (more correctly) have always approached the problems we face with impeccable analytical skills. One concern which the peace movement, in general, has failed to address in any but the most flippant manner is the question of Soviet militarism. The counter-protesters, for all their right-wing ideology, have a point when they ask what type of missiles are pointed at Toronto? Which is not to say that a peace through strength approach is then justified but that we are being held hostage by both superpowers, and not to address people's fears concerning this is, in therapy terms, "not dealing".

Why has this concern been ignored? Is it because it seems like too big a problem and one over which we have no control? Is it because there is the feeling that if people were allowed to express fears about Soviet missiles they'd be won over to a peace through strength position? Is it



perhaps because we might offend the few members of the movement with pro-Soviet sentiments? Whatever the reasons for ignoring this aspect of the problem of avoiding nuclear war, the peace movement appears biased, naive and narrow as a result.

This is not to downplay the many creative actions directed at exposing and stopping the western bloc's blatant preparations for nuclear war. The brave, committed and imaginative work which has been done by peace activists everywhere have made a profound impact on many people's consciousness, even if not on those of the politicians.

People have to act where they are but they are also under an obligation to (to quote a German Green party slogan) "think globally". This means that the criticisms of the peace movement, as a whole, must be broad and deep. Broad in that the actual threat from both sides must be considered and deep in that the underlying issues of militarism, nationalism and a whole way of life must be addressed.

There are no easy answers to the enormous problems we face. The alternatives we choose must be as numerous and creative as the forces we face are limited and destructive. Concretely this means that instead of demanding more from the system, "Jobs not Bombs" or more hypocritical posturing on the part of government leaders, we should be trying to build alternatives to a system which seems hell-bent on our destruction. Some ways of doing this might include switching our money (what there is of it) to alternative credit unions, patronizing small businesses and individuals not multinationals and chain stores for our physical needs, growing our own food, creating strong support networks to allow each other to find financial, spiritual, medical, educational and employment alternatives to the status quo. At the same time, we should try to encourage and publicize "grass roots" attempts of peace groups in the Eastern bloc countries.

Above all the peace movement should be rich in diversity. The cross-fertilization of individuals and groups acting either autonomously or together across "boundaries" of all kinds might create a new hybrid movement capable of ushering in and sustaining a peaceful world.

HEALTH AND WEALTH

The "medical establishment" encompasses many things. Today, the term does not simply refer to doctors, hospitals, surgeons and other "specialists" but as well refers to equipment, chemical and drug manufacturers, suppliers, retailers, advertisers, foundations, laboratories (which by way of livestock and import companies, needlessly slaughter millions of animals daily), colleges, universities, boards of directors, private and corporate funding agencies, government agencies and on and on all the way down to agencies such as the CIA and other intelligence and foreign "diplomacy" organizations.

All of these organizations stand to gain much by the repression of alternatives to the established medical systems. Those gains simply put, are profit and control.

We are in no way disputing the very real need for safe, accessible medical care practiced by doctors, hospitals, surgeons etc. Many of them provide valuable services to much of the community depending on the economic situation. What we are disputing is blind adherence to the entire profit-mongering establishment that exploits this essential service and the people who use it. We also dispute the fanatical non-tolerance of alternative health care.

Take a look in any drug store today and you will see literally thousands upon thousands of brands of "over the counter" medicine. One might think that because of these wonders of technology illnesses and ailments would have decreased—statistics show that the opposite is true. There is an age-old question—what came first the chicken or the egg? Similarly, what comes first, the cure or the sickness?

Like all other profit oriented businesses the medical industry needs a growing market in order to survive. It logically follows that like all other industries, it must create that market and expand it in order to exploit it and gain more profit.

This "creation of demand", as it is called, means convincing us in already over-medicated North America to use more drugs for more reasons. The drug industry continually modifies and combines old drugs in new ways so that we will try to use them for more ailments and so that there will always appear to be something new to try out. They also work to increase the use of "psychotropic" drugs (drugs which effect psychic function, behavior or experience). These pimps in the drug industry push to have drug treatment for all emotional problems and to expand the number of situations in our lives that we consider drug treatable. The majority of this push is directed at doctors, with psychiatrists being the major target. 65% of all prescriptions are psychotropic and of these at least 3/4 are written for womyn.

Obviously, a large sector of the population in Canada and the US is employed by the medical and drug industry. Many jobs would be lost if more people used alternative health care and self help programs. Understand that jobs would be lost due to lack of profit and not due to an entire collapse of the "market", as essential establishment

medical care and services would still be in demand for problems that cannot be remedied outside the hospital.

Although the medical systems in Canada and the US differ widely, both governments have vested interests in maintaining the medical "status quo" and both systems fall pitifully short of being satisfactory. There is virtually no Canadian drug industry that is separable from the US industries. It is precisely because the medical industry rakes in such enormous profits that both governments go to such an extent to protect this industry (check out the Health and Welfare acts and the criminal codes of both countries). The protection of this industry is fanatical because the ideology of western "democracy" (their own twisted version) is based upon the proliferation of profit through capitalism. The drug industry spells PROFIT all the way. A number of drug corporations have an annual profit three times that of IT&T or General Motors. Any threat to profit on such a large scale is considered a threat to "democracy and capitalism" and we have witnessed time and time again the extent to which they are willing to go to protect that!

In Canada this is accomplished through much state intervention and control and the continuing persecution of midwives and self-help groups. The Canadian government has access to a large amount of information as pertains to the economic situation, physical health, and often cases, the politics and personal beliefs of any individual through such agencies as Medicare, Welfare, Social Assistance, community "awareness" programs, etc. Upon obtaining a warrant (which is by no means difficult) the "confidential" files your doctor, psychiatrist, or whatever, keeps on you, may be confiscated by the police or government and the information put on computer file under "s" for "subversive".

In comparison, the US does not have an extensive hospital plan or social assistance program (each state has its own variation). Most medical facilities are the projects of private enterprise (which seems to have most people convinced of the need for their "services"—the US is the largest per capita consumer of patent medicine). The cost of being hospitalized in the US for a day can be upwards of a thousand dollars. Without social assistance/insurance, this leaves a large percentage of the population without proper medical and health care.

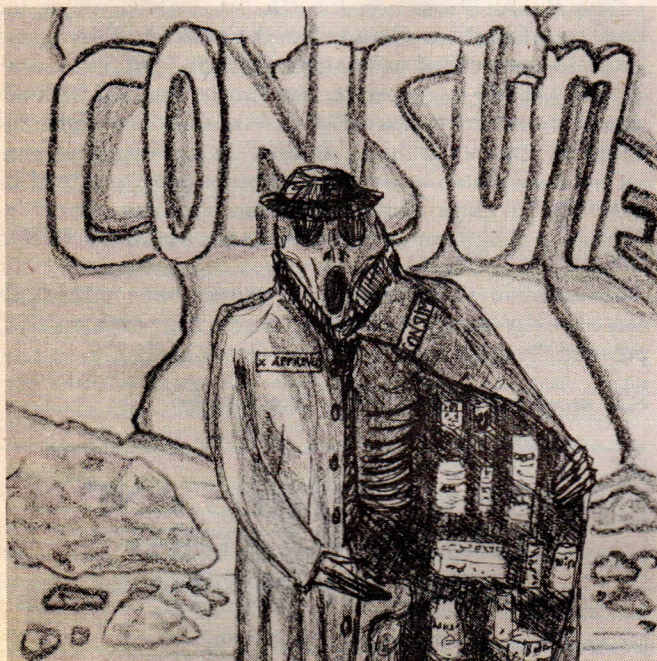
Poor people are deprived of proper health care, yet when they establish alternatives to profit oriented corporation controlled medical care, the state (US) bears down with equal ferocity. The fact that most poor people are either womyn, native, black, chicano and of other ethnic background should speak for itself. Is Amerika trying to rid itself of poor non-white people?

Although the extent of direct government control on the US care system is not as far reaching as here in Canada, they are nevertheless quite proficient at gathering information on "deviants" and resisters of their status quo.

Many third world, native and poor populations have

fallen prey to the imperialist scalpel. In 1973, the International Conference on Menstrual Regulation was held in Honolulu. It was sponsored by BATTELL POPULATION STUDY CENTRE, INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FOUNDATION, A.I.D. (a CIA backed organization which concentrates on industrial development in the third world), THE POPULATION COUNCIL, all funded by the ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION and other such wealthy right-wing organizations within the Amerikan ruling class.

On the agenda, as the name subtly suggests, was what this "war council" termed "menstrual regulation" which is nothing but a powdered name for population control



through such practices as forced sterilization.

In many documented cases, womyn have been refused welfare and/or medical treatment unless they consented to the calculated mutilation of their bodies. In other cases these procedures are carried out without the patient's knowledge during or after abortions, births and operations. Chemical and drug experimentation along with the perpetration and sale of harmful birth control methods contribute much to the exploitation and control of third-world people.

In New Zealand in 1973, native womyn were fitted with copper IUD's and injected with a hormonal drug named Depo-Provera. Thousands of womyn suffered per-

manent serious damage to many of their internal organs and birth defects of children born to them because they were informed and believed the drugs were safe as they had been approved by the Federal Drug Administration. This was nothing but blatant nazi-like human experimentation.

None of these drugs or devices were accepted on the amerikan market.

Prostaglandins given to womyn in Uganda under the same pretenses caused recipients to have heart attacks and circulatory diseases.

As well as providing a huge market for drug industry (both present and potential) in third-world countries are also a convenient place to get rid of drugs that are outdated or have been taken off the market in North America. Drugs are sold in different countries with different descriptions of their uses and hazards. For example tetracycline is sold in the United States with the following adverse reactions publicized: vomiting, diarrhea, nausea, upset stomach, rashes, kidney poisoning and potential fetal poisoning. In Brazil this is cut to vomiting, nausea, upset stomach, and rashes, and in Argentina there are no adverse reactions publicized.

Alongside the blatant military attacks by the US on many of these countries, the atrocities described above have political connotations which cannot be denied. The political and economic interest of imperialist nations are inseparable.

NEWS SHORT

In early September, someone kicked in the door at Librarie Alternative in Montreal and stole approximately \$350. Earlier in the summer, Librarie Alternative suffered a shattered front window, which was replaced at a cost of \$375.

Librarie Alternative is one of several progressive bookstores which have been subjected to vandalism and arson in the past few months, and, as important resources for the community, deserve all the support and protection we can give them. The following is an ad for a group in Montreal which is planning to renovate the Librarie Alternative premises and expand its range of services.

A.E.E.L.I.

A group of Montreal anarchists have recently pooled their personal resources to purchase the building which houses the Librairie Alternatives Bookstore. This is a non-profit project whose purpose is to: ensure the continuance of Alternatives Bookstore; establish a libertarian documentation center, and provide a meeting place for various groups in the community. We desperately need funding so that we can pay off the Bank loan and start to make the necessary renovations to the building. No amount is too small! For further information please write, or send your donations to:

**L'Association des Espaces d'Espaces Libres
et Imaginaires (A.E.E.L.I.)
2033 St. Laurent
Montreal, Quebec H2A 2T3**

F. NOISE ISSUE 3

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Toronto, Ontario
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Herb Today Gone Tomorrow

by Ron Hayley

It has come to **Kick It Over's** attention that 65 herbs, now freely available in health food stores, may soon be reclassified as drugs, and hence will only be available with a doctor's prescription.

The list of the potentially affected herbs (see box) was first published in the August 13th edition of the **Montreal Gazette**, though this was apparently without the cooperation of the Health Protection Branch of the federal government, for whom the list remains an "internal document".

The idea for the ban apparently originated with the Toxicology Division, headed by a Dr. Cooper-Goodman, and, though the H.P.B. claims no action is pending, other sources claim that proposals to the legislature for reclassification will soon be forthcoming.

Why is this action being taken? According to herbalists and health food store owners, the likely cause is pressure from the pharmaceutical industry. According to a report I recently heard on the radio, the profits in the health products industry are down, and one cause may be the increasing interest in naturopathic alternatives. An inspector for the H.P.B., contacted by phone, speculated that, with the growing interest in herbal remedies, "People don't have the knowledge to use them properly, and, consequently, the government has to step in."

Familiar story, isn't it? They destroy our traditional stores of knowledge and methods of healing, and then accuse us of being ignorant. But if people, by the droves, are seeking to unearth the wisdom of traditional healers, it may be because of the increasingly evident bankruptcy of "modern" medicine, with its doctor and hospital-induced illness, and its method of isolating the disease or infirmity from the whole physical and spiritual make-up of the person and his or her environment. Not that modern techniques are never useful in treating disease or repairing damage, but so often the "cure" is highly dangerous in its own right and undermines the body's

own healing mechanisms.

If indeed these herbs are banned, it will be one more instance of the technocracy, under the guise of the state and medical and scientific "experts", seeking to encroach into our lives—subjecting us, in the words of Mikhail Bakunin, to "the reign of scientific intelligence, the most aristocratic, despotic, arrogant, and elitist of all".

The Health Protection Branch, empowered under the Food and Drug Act, already has the power to search your home for proscribed substances without a warrant, and, should you fail to cooperate, you can be charged with obstruction and the police called in. An alliance to fight this effort is apparently being formed in Quebec, and concerned individuals in Ontario are attempting to extend its organization into Ontario. Those desiring more information should contact Lionel Pasen at Thuna Herbal Store (416) 465-3366.

In addition to fighting the proposed ban, individuals can also buy seeds and begin growing their own, so as to prevent the state from achieving a monopoly.

P.S. wormwood has already been banned.

LIST OF HERBS AND THEIR ALLEGED SIDE EFFECTS

Aloe (severe diarrhea); **aster** (allergic reaction); **bluecohosh** (fetal malformation); **buckthorn** (severe diarrhea); **burdock** (inability to void, blurred vision); **cassava** (chronic cyanide intoxication); **camomile** (contact dermatitis, anaphylaxis); **chrysanthemum** (allergic reaction); **catnip** (stimulant effects); **comfrey** (cancer-causing); **devil's claw** (miscarriage); **Dock** (diarrhea); **goldenrod** (allergic reaction); **guarana** (harmful to liver, kidneys and digestive system); **horsetail** (loss of muscular control, labored respiration, coma and possible death); **hydrangea** (stimulant effects); **Indian tobacco** (sweating, vomiting, paralysis, depressed temperature, coma and possible death); **inkberry** (gastroenteritis, diminished respiration and possible death); **jimson weed** (stimulant effects); **juniper** (irritation of gastrointestinal tract); **licorice** (high blood pressure); **marigold** (allergic reaction); **mate** (liver damage); **mistletoe** (gastroenteritis); **mormon tea** (harmful to liver, kidneys and digestive system); **melilot** (abnormal menstrual bleeding); **penroyal** (miscarriage); **pokeweed** (gastroenteritis, diminished respiration and possible death); **rue** (miscarriage); **sassafras** (liver damage and cancer-causing); **savin** (miscarriage); **scotchbroom** (premature contraction of uterus during pregnancy); **senna** (diarrhea); **Shave grass** (Loss of muscular control, labored respiration, convulsions, coma and possible death); **St. John's wort** (allergic reaction); **tansy** (miscarriage); **tonka beans** (harmful to liver, kidneys and digestive system); **woodruff** (abnormal menstrual bleeding); **wormwood** (stimulant effect); and **yarrow**.



St. Johnswort

TWO FUTURES

NOVA SCOTIA NOTEBOOK

by Ron Hayley

There are four major battles going on right now in Nova Scotia, and all of them involve people vs. technocracy. All of them involve ordinary people being punished for demanding some control over their future—a control which the technocrats have abrogated as their birthright.

The first—a battle by Cape Breton yeomanry against the spraying of herbicides by Nova Scotia Forest Industries—has so far resulted in a Nova Scotia Supreme Court decision awarding court costs and damages (anticipated at half a million dollars) to the company. Ruling that the plaintiffs had failed to prove (despite expert testimony) a threat to their lives and property, the judge insisted that the plaintiffs be required to sell off their land, if necessary, to meet the company's expenses.

The second battle involves the prospect of uranium mining. No mining has occurred as yet, but government and industry have been waging an aggressive campaign to prepare public opinion for its eventual introduction. Donna Smyth, a professor and anti-nuclear activist, made bold to criticize a chemist by the name of Leo Yaffe, who had been making the rounds peddling his talk "The Hazards of Not Going Nuclear". In her article, published in the Halifax Chronicle Herald, Smyth questioned the impartial and "objective" character of Yaffe's talk. The result: a libel suit demanding general, special, exemplary, and punitive damages for an unspecified amount. The newspaper has been exempted from the suit. The suit goes to trial sometime this winter.

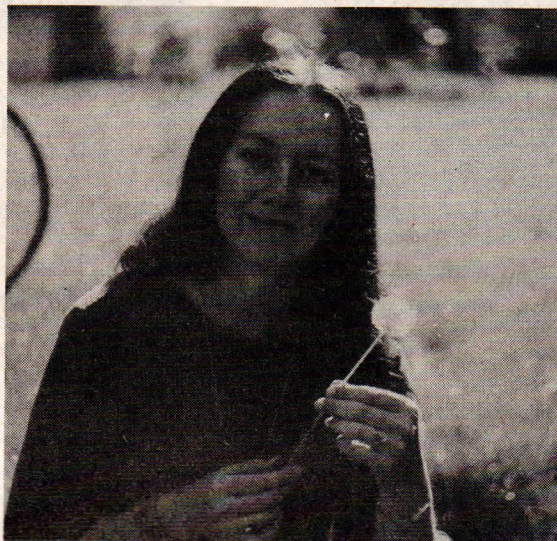
The third battle involves 8 Yarmouth, Nova Scotia fishermen who stand charged with piracy for allegedly ramming and setting fire to government boats which had been harassing them for violating trap tag limits on lobsters. So far, at least one man has pleaded guilty, and all face sentencing in the near future.

The fourth involves 3 Nova Scotia midwives facing possible life imprisonment for "criminal negligence resulting in death" in connection with the home birth of a 10 1/2 lb. baby who later died of brain damage. The preliminary hearing is coming up later this winter.

Each of these issues concentrate one or more of the major contradictions in our society. The spray battle pits production for profit (and its ramifications for forest management) against the more ecologically-based wisdom of local residents. The uranium issue pits the nation against bio-region, with national economic interests (aided by local flunkies) coming in from outside to mine a substance which is of no value to Nova Scotians, and which can only further damage the quality of their environment. The lobstermen issue pits the state against the community with the state presuming to know what's best for the ecology of the region, and what's economically feasible for the fishermen. And the midwives case pits the scientific "wisdom" of the male establishment (the patriarchy) against the traditional wisdom of women healers seeking to restore to women greater awareness and control over their biological functions.

Nova Scotia has been justly described as a "banana

The three midwives, referred to in **Nova Scotia Notebook: Two Futures**, have had the charges against them dismissed. Congratulations to all three, and, in particular, to Donna Carpenter (see picture).

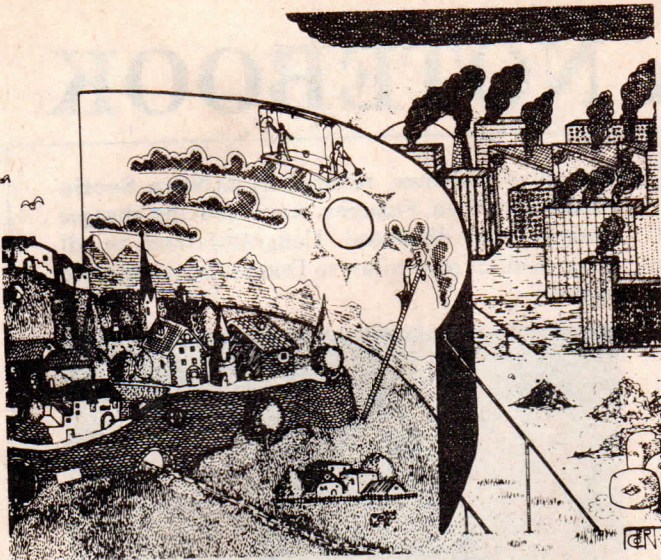


republic"—its government beholden at every turn to corporate interests. Halifax, for instance, is a visible product of distorted capitalist development. Not a particularly beautiful or distinctive city, Halifax is a polyglot of decaying clapboard houses, genteel mansions, and thrusting unplanned "developments". Consequently, it lacks coherence or character. But with a combined population of 280,000, the Halifax Dartmouth area still has something of the human scale. The downtown area is quite small, and it is not uncommon to run into people you know in the course of your daily business.

But if Halifax is a city too late for rational urban planning, still one cannot fail to be impressed by the sense that in Nova Scotia, if nowhere else, hope still lingers. For in Nova Scotia, with scarcely more people than the city of San Francisco, there is still time to halt the juggernaut of "progress". The people of Nova Scotia—possessing a relatively unspoiled environment—still have something to defend. And the yeomanry of Cape Breton, with a total population approximating the 4 square block St. Jamestown area of Toronto, have demonstrated that someone—somewhere—still has the grit and determination, and a palpable sense of what's at stake, to fight for a shrinking way of life.

In sum, Nova Scotia is confronted with "two futures". One—a future willed by the technocrats; and the other, a human scale, traditional future where respect for nature and emphasis on the quality of life are given paramount

Continued ...



consideration. If the technocrats win, Nova Scotians will be faced with the following scenario:

"... forest farms encircled by wire fences. Inside ... chemicals have been applied to eliminate any animals that might browse the expensive and supposedly genetically superior seedlings. Outside, a guard has been posted to patrol the perimeter The process begins with clear cutting. Skidders remove the protective duff or moss layer Herbicides are applied to suppress ... unwanted competition Dead brush is bulldozed into piles and burned, eliminating niches for wildlife."²

If the Nova Scotians win, it could serve as an impetus for the rest of Canada to seize back its destiny to build a future worth inhabiting.

¹For more in-depth background to the lobster fishermen's case, see the October 1983 issue of *New Maritimes* (send \$1.00 to New Maritimes, Ensfield, Hants Co., Nova Scotia B0N 1N0).

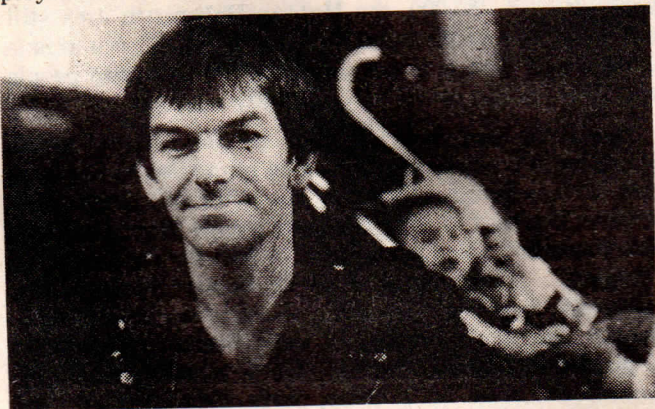
²August/September 1983 issue of *Harrowsmith*.

With nuclear weapons we are all internationally unprotected people.

PROTEST and SURVIVE

On Tuesday, September 27, 1983, Ken Deyarmond was arrested and charged with threatening assault against Margaret Thatcher, 3 counts of assaulting police, and possession of marijuana. Previous to his arrest, Ken was (and still is) active in support work for the Vancouver 5, and the Queen's Park Peace Camp, as well as Against Cruise Testing Coalition. He was also involved in actions to oppose Bill C-157, and police harassment.

At the bail hearing, the day after his arrest, conditions were set for his release, one of which was to seek and maintain employment. Considering that his picture was smeared all over the International Press, depicting him as a violent lunatic, it seems unlikely that he will find employment.



Ken is also unjustly forbidden to attend anti-cruise protests! What does anti-cruise protesting have to do with allegedly threatening to assault Margaret Thatcher?

From the time of his arrest to the present, many factors are contributing to denying him a fair trial. The way in which the media handled the story immediately after the arrest discredited the journalism profession. Police speculation was reported as fact. All police actions on the day seemed to be accepted unquestionably. Although

statements were made by several eyewitnesses contradicting those of the police, none of these were reported. All the press coverage was based upon police sources.

This is what irresponsible, biased reporting is; ultimately denying people the right to a fair trial!

Ken urgently needs your support. He is presently unemployed and can't afford the expense of a proper defense for a fair trial; which will cost thousands of dollars. Please help to assure that Ken will get a fair trial.

To contribute Financially:

Internationally Unprotected Person Fund
Account No. 16225 - Central Trust
415 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ont.

For More Information:

Ken Deyarmond Defense Committee
P.O. Box 6326, Station "A"
Toronto, Ontario

Editor's Note: Ken, a member of the KIO Collective, has since won his appeal that he be allowed to attend anti-cruise demonstrations. His first trial—on the bogus marijuana charge—is scheduled for January.

Hasty Poem

by Wilbur Snowshoe

Who says Indians
are lazy?

I wrote this poem
in 17 seconds.

I bet it would have taken
Irving Layton
all day.

A review of Jack Jeffrey's **HOLDING PATTERN:**

THE ART OF WAR

by Dot Tuer

In 1909, a group of European artists, self-styled as the Futurists, published a **Founding and First Manifesto**. A dedication to violence and a denunciation of all traditions, it glorified war as the world's only hygiene;

War is beautiful because it establishes man's dominion over subjugated machinery. War is beautiful because it combines the gunfire, the cannonades, the ceasefire, the scents, and the putrefaction into a symphony. War is beautiful because it creates a new architecture, like that of great tanks, the geometrical formation flights, the smoke spiraling from the villages.

In 1983, this manifesto seems particularly offensive. After all, in a world still reeling from the disfigurements of Hiroshima, how could anyone in their right mind describe war as beautiful? Such programs as **The Day After** serve to remind us of what our liberal ideology has already taught us. War is a horrible, unthinkable exercise for the civilized Western World. And secure in this conviction, we dismiss the Futurists' aesthetic as a cultural aberration of the past.

But in so doing, we close our eyes to the present. In our belief that such an imagination is politically and ethically obsolete, we cease to notice the evidence of such an aesthetic within our own culture. And while we are busy denying the validity of the Futurists' perceptions, the mass-media is busy moulding the visuals of war to a technological definition of beauty. Unfortunately, the Futurists' Manifesto is no historical aberration. Rather, it functions as a premonition of the way in which media have used images to subliminally manipulate our perceptions of war.

In Europe, it is said that the Second World War will not end until the last person who experienced its horror takes his or her memories to the grave. In North America, having never endured the immediacy of an occupation or civilian bombing raid, the population's perception of war has no recourse to a diversity of personal and highly emotional accounts.

Instead, it is the media which have projected and codified certain images as the reality of war. Just as technology has proliferated our nuclear capacity, so it has proliferated the visuals of the atom bomb, tanks rumbling, geometrical plane formations, and napalm victims burning. With the advent of the eleven o'clock news and the glossy reproductions of atrocities in *Life* magazine, we have been conditioned to view war as a visual rather than emotional experience.

The media's control over the images of war has affected our capacity to deal with war on a personal and responsible level. Bombarded with images of suffering, we have become de-sensitized and capable of dissociating our own involvement in the manufacture of atrocities. War takes place on television, over there, not here. And if it did happen here, which is unimaginable, it would all be over in a few brief orange-tinged seconds.

This distance, both physically and emotionally from the

experience of war, enables the superpowers to conduct their battles in a theatrical manner. No longer actors in the script, we function as a passive audience. War has become a psychological melodrama, with Ronald Reagan in the starring role and his array of weapons an arsenal of special effects.

Just as the media has distanced the viewer from the experience of war, it has had the effect of separating the use of weapons from their destructive function. NASA launches a rocket which will send a man to the moon. Enveloped in smoke, this streamlined form glints in the sunshine, as it catapults into space with a power and speed unimagined 30 years ago. It represents the highest technological achievements of mankind. For the dominant culture, **this** is the beauty of the twentieth century; objects which combine a sleek visual form with the expression of raw power, military might.

People gather at airshows to applaud the spectacle of black jets streaking through the air with grace and precision. For them, this is a moving and beautiful sight. They have forgotten that these same planes will carry the nuclear bombs in a time of war. Open any high-tech magazine. Embossed somewhere on its pages will be a picture of a private plane. Watch any car commercial. These ads hype speed and power as the qualities of an aesthetic standard. In both instances, the object is streamlined and glossy. It has appropriated the model of the nuclear jet for its design.

Video-games ape at a Star Wars' romanticization of combat. Prototypes of nuclear jets lodge missiles at the flick of the hand. A direct hit is a mathematical tragedy. For it is, after-all, only a computer-generated game. The similarity of this American pastime to the realities of a nuclear war are so obviously frightening that only Ronald Reagan has the audacity to praise the relationship. He told a group of Boy Scouts how pleased he was that the youth of America was getting 'ground training' for the next war in their leisure time.

The mushroom cloud is not only a pleasant diversion on the video screen. Its image has been co-opted for a human as well as computer aesthetic. Walking down Queen St., we see a poster of an atom bomb exploding. Assuming it must have an anti-nuclear message, we draw nearer to discover an advertisement for a hair-dressing salon. The mushroom cloud has become another way to wear your hair in our fashion dictated age.

Although the media have a virtually hegemonic control over the production and dissemination of war images, a small and largely underground opposition to this stranglehold exists. In part, this opposition is of a political nature. Peace groups and anti-nuclear coalitions have gained sufficient strength in numbers to attract the attention of the media. Their demonstrations and street theatre tactics draw attention to the escalations of both weapons and tensions on the part of the superpowers. Movies such as **Dark Circle** and **The War Game** (Peter Watkins) emphasize the terror and unthinkable horrors

Continued ...

of a nuclear holocaust. But it is in the realm of the art world where a direct confrontation with the aesthetics of war takes place.

For the most part, artists who have attempted to make anti-war statements have failed to deal with the issue of how the media has manipulated and codified the visuals of war. With the best political intentions, a great many art pieces reproduce the familiar images of a rocket or a Hiroshima victim in the context of a painting or slide projection. However, such reproductions are unlikely to alter the way in which we have been conditioned to view war or diminish the aesthetic appeal of the object.

Bertolt Brecht suggests that an artist who wants to make a political statement about a concept such as war

must change it fundamentally and erase its past to such an extent that should the old concept be taken up again, and why not? it will no longer stir any memory of the thing it once designated.

Thus if art is to be truly political, it must confront the form as well as the content of the issue. The pervasiveness of the media creates our status-quo. An art piece on war must therefore critically confront the media's presentation of this concept. It must function to alert the viewer to the ways in which she/he has been fed a series of images which aestheticize power, strength, and military weaponry; distancing war from our everyday reality while the objects of war become our dominant models of beauty.

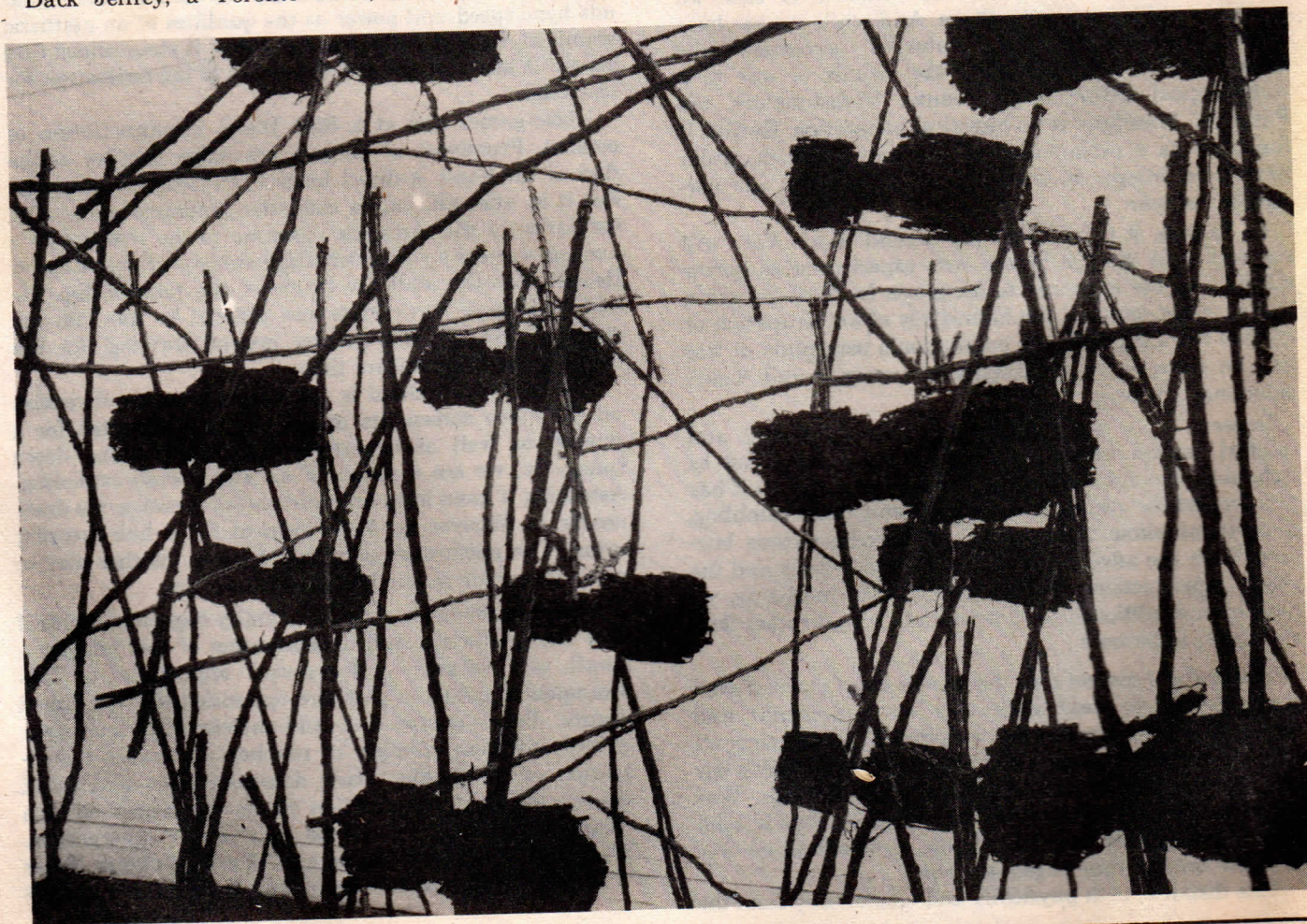
Dack Jeffrey, a Toronto artist, recently exhibited a

sculptural installation entitled **Holding Pattern**. On view at the Artculture Resource Centre (789 Queen St. W.) from September 7-24, this piece is the culmination of Jeffrey's attempt to fuse the media available to the artist with a political concern to create an 'anti-war' statement. It is also an illustration of a political art which successfully challenges the dominant visual perceptions of war.

Jeffrey's concern to relate his materials and form to their content, coupled with an ambition to "be continually breaking habits, challenging accepted perceptions," facilitates this success. For the focus in **Holding Pattern** is not only to confront the abstractness of war, but also to critique the way in which the media has codified the images of mushroom clouds and high-powered jets as aesthetic.

When Jeffrey started to consider the process of formulating an anti-war piece, he began with the painting of a large canvas. Against a realist sky, black bombs were suspended, with the title **Holding Pattern** on top, and the words, 'a model' underneath in brackets. The idea of **Holding Pattern** was to suggest that the repetition of war could be held in check by our critical and political actions.

He found, however, the picture "too ambiguous." The title suggested an "alternate route to destruction" yet the form was dangerously close to the familiar media images of bombs dropping. Continuing with the idea of the holding pattern, Jeffrey sought a form which would visually force the viewer to the conclusions of the title. He



chose to anchor this concept in a sculptural installation.

Holding Pattern, as it emerged in sculpture, became a work 25 feet high and eight feet long. It was constructed from turquoise steel rods which formed an unsystematic support structure four feet in depth. Suspended within this structure were black bomb-like forms. Rough and irregular, these shapes are constructed from steel wires with stringy bits of canvas dangling from their exteriors. These bombs appear as "primitive, almost archeological," while wires which wrap the steel rods give the work a rough appearance and a psychological association to barbed wire. The use of tactile materials in a three-dimensional medium forces the viewer to confront the idea of war as a physical experience. The total effect of the piece is to visually oppose the images of a media-represented war.

In the formation of the work, Jeffrey was also concerned with exploring the way in which the media encourages political conditions of passivity. War images in the media are often objects of power, strength and beauty, signs of progress which avoid direct reference to their military capabilities. By representing rockets and missiles as objects of technological advancement, the media diverts the psychological recognition of these same objects as instrumental to an arms-race of irrational proportions. As people accept these images as necessary and desired examples of linear progress, they abdicate their responsibility to react against the same images as weapons of

FREEZE REAGAN/BUSH CONFERENCE

Forty-five people from twenty-five states, Canada and West Germany met in Dallas, Texas November 20 and 21. The purpose was to do preliminary organization for demonstrations against the Republican National Convention, to be held in Dallas next August 20 to 23. The conference was called by the Youth International Party, but many in attendance were not Yippies. Notable among these was Hans-George Behr, representing the West German Green Party. The Greens have endorsed the demonstrations and pledged to co-ordinate actions in Germany during convention week.

Planned for Dallas is non-violent creative civil disobedience conducted by autonomous federations of affinity groups. A local group, the Dallas Demonstration Coordinating Committee, was represented at some meetings. The two groups will be co-operating.

Details will clarify as the convention nears and with input from those who plan to participate. At this time people are travelling every region of the USA in a grassroots organizing push. A Toronto office has been set up, contact us for more information.

Freeze Reagan/Bush
c/o AAPA, P.O. Box 6531, Station 'A'
Toronto, Ontario M5W 1X4

(416) 469-1372

terrifying destruction.

Jeffrey hopes to challenge this abdication. By randomly constructing the steel rods into an unsystematic support structure, Jeffrey is confronting the viewer with the reality that war is violent and chaotic. The bombs, fixed in place, suggest that progress is not a succession of bigger and more beautiful missiles, but an awareness that such objects are our most primitive and backward forms of expression.

As the title, **Holding Pattern**, lettered on the wall, informs, progress begins when an alternate pattern to this reality of chaos and destruction is established. But as Jeffrey himself makes clear, his work in itself is not a political solution. It can serve to provoke questions about how and why it differs from the media's presentation of war, but it must be the people themselves who translate this difference into a critical awareness and political action.

It lies with us, and not the artist, to create a climate which facilitates the halting of the pattern, to end the repetition of war.

SURVIVAL NETWORK

The Survival Network, a loose coalition of libertarian, prisoner, and Native groups publishes a **Survival Network Newsletter**. Subscriptions can be had for \$10.00 a year by writing to:

Survival Network Information Centre
P.O. Box 52282, New Orleans, LA 70152

Two issues are of particular interest. One, an in-depth look at the Nazis and KKK in the U.S. talks about Nazi/Klan's tactics, political programmes, and paramilitary training centers, and the covert support they receive from state institutions. This particular issue is available for a donation from: David Molenaar, 511 Davis St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007. The current issue, just out, deals with recent police harassment in Toronto. For copies, write to: Bulldozer, P.O. Box 5052, Station A, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1W4. Donations to cover printing costs would be appreciated.

remarks about gays stirs phoenix furor

PHOENIX, Ariz. — A top county official said yesterday he won't resign despite the furor created by his "facetious" remark that homosexuals should be used to replace animals in medical experiments. "I have absolutely no intention of stepping down," said Hewley Atkinson, a Republican and chairman of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. The Arizona Republic newspaper called for Mr. Atkinson to step down as chairman and local gays threatened to try to recall Mr. Atkinson after he said last week that "homosexuals and lesbians from San Francisco" should be used in experiments instead of animals from the pound.

Peace camps sprouting everywhere

As "the long, hot autumn" against the introduction of Cruise and Pershing missiles unfolds across Europe, one important facet of the drama receives scant attention.

This facet concerns the struggle of Italian youth, women, and men—aided by foreign volunteers—against the construction of a huge cruise missile base in Comiso, Sicily. Why Sicily? As E.P. Thompson pointed out in his talk at the University of Toronto, cruise missiles sited in Sicily are of little use in a war with the Soviet Union. Their real purpose is likely to intimidate anti-U.S. forces in the Middle East.

The Magliocco airport—proposed site for 112 cruise missiles to be deployed in early 1984—is one of at least 20 U.S. military installations on the island. The base currently holds 500 people (mostly Americans), and is intended—when completed—to hold 15,000 soldiers and technicians.

The Mafia is rubbing its hands in glee at the prospect of big bucks to be made from drugs, prostitution, and other U.S. military-related "service" industries. And Italy's Socialist premier is chirping along a la Trudeau about the necessity of going ahead with installation given "Soviet intransigence".

(I've always wondered how the NDP explains the militaristic behavior of their "comrades" in the Second International—Mitterand and Craxi—who, in addition to selling high-tech fighter planes to Iraq and sending soldiers to Lebanon, are big NATO backers to boot!).

The response from the left has been mixed. The Communists mobilized a one-shot demo of 100,000 on the island back in 1981, and are content with making the occasional grandstanding gesture. The Socialists, as we have already noted, support the installation, and, as a result, the real opposition seems to be coming from the non-aligned left. According to the *Globe and Mail* and other sources, peace activists are pretty fed up with "politics as usual" (i.e. with the maneuvering of the various political parties), and this may be creating favourable conditions for direct action.

Last year, a mixed international peace camp was established, and, with the arrival of several women from Greenham Common, women began playing a leading role. On January 4th, a web was spun across the base's main gate, closing it down for four hours.

On International Women's Day, 600 women from Italy, other parts of Europe, and the U.S. protested at the base in a week of actions but were met with considerable police violence. Twelve women were arrested and imprisoned. All foreign women were deported on the personal order of the Minister of the Interior.

In June, the idea of a women's peace camp was born, and a small house was purchased along with 4,200 sq. metres of land. On July 17th, two masked men armed with sub-machine guns broke into the anti-cruise co-ordinating centre in the town of Comiso and threatened the occupants. Twenty people, among them members of the anarchist group in Catania on the east of the island, were lined up against the wall and had guns aimed at them. A shot was fired in the direction of Alfred Bonnano, editor of *Anarchismo*, and it was later found that a bullet

had pierced his clothing. The two told the assembled to get out of town or 'face the consequences'.

On Saturday, July 23rd, over 500 people demonstrated outside the base, some attempting to occupy it. That night the police moved in on the 200 to 300 remaining demonstrators. Using flares, tear gas, and batons, they succeeded in hospitalizing scores (including some who may be permanently injured). Live ammunition was also fired over the heads of those present.

Since then, news has been scarce. We do know that women all over the world are being asked to buy shares in the women's peace camp for the nominal price of \$5.00. Donations from mixed groups for the general upkeep of the camp are also welcome. The camp's address is: La Ragnatela, Campo Di Donne per la Pace, Comiso, Sicilia. Send the money orders to: Raffaella Iurato, conto: 81/8992/P' c/o Banca Agricola Popolare di Ragusa, Comiso Sicilia.

For readers interested in North American women's peace camps, I strongly recommend the October 1983 issue of *Off Our Backs*. Featured articles include an in depth look at the new Cole Bay women's peace camp in Saskatchewan and eye witness accounts and analysis of the Seneca Falls women's peace camp. Sample copies of *Off Our Backs* can be obtained by sending \$1.50 to: OOB, 1841 Columbia Road, No. 212, Washington D.C. 20009 U.S.A. Information about the Cole Bay peace camp can be obtained by writing to: Women's Peace Camp, General Delivery, Cole Bay, Saskatchewan S0M 0M0. (829-4232, 829-4218, 833-2557). Donations should be sent to the same address.

Most of the information for this article was taken from *Kinesis*, October 1983, and *Black Flag*, (29/7/83). Also of note was some absolutely dreadful anarchist propaganda we received from somewhere in Italy. Anarchist dogmatism is alive and well.

There are a number of peace camps containing both women and men—the Ottawa peace camp, the Toronto peace camp, and the Cold Lake peace camp, just to name three, although there is no doubt that the feminist movement has taken up the peace camp idea and made it their own.

Solidarity with Solidarnosc

Copies of the Newsletter of the Vancouver Committee for Solidarity with Solidarnosc are available for 50c plus postage by writing to:

VCSS
P.O. Box 76881, Station S
3366 Kingsway
Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5T3

Four issues have been published so far, and consignments for sale are available by writing to the above address.

"Everytime they attack me I grow stronger".

Native spiritual Struggle in Prison

On March 30, 1983, Gary and Dino Butler and others began a Spiritual Fast inside Kent Pen. in B.C. Since Gary and Dino's arrest in 1981, they have been fighting for the right of Freedom of Religion for Native peoples and specifically demanded that Sacred Sweatlodge Ceremonies be held inside Kent. On the 22nd day of the fast Gary was kidnapped to Sharpe's Farm, Alberta, where he was told if he quit his fast he would be kept there—but if he didn't he would be shipped to Millhaven in Ontario. They kept their promise and a week later he was in the Super Maximum Security Pen.



of Canada. At Millhaven, Gary shared his beliefs and thoughts with Native prisoners, some who had never had the chance to learn their own ways. A reawakening of spirit and purpose evolved and the Brotherhood really came together in a positive way. They requested to meet with the Warden for discussions on holding Sacred Ceremonies but the Warden refused. A week and a half before Gary was kidnapped, they had put in a proposal for a Sweatlodge to be built at Millhaven.

On October 6th, Gary Butler was told that the keeper (warden) of Millhaven wanted to speak with him. He was escorted up front and told that he was being transferred to Laval, Quebec. The reason being that he was under suspicion of conspiracy to escape with the use of explosives and firearms or weapons. The Correctional Service of Canada calls this action an "involuntary transfer". We call it "kidnapping".

Gary told the keeper: "I understand why you fear me. It is not because I am physically dangerous, but because I work for the people. It is because I continue to speak out about my spiritual beliefs no matter what you do to me. You are afraid of me because you can not break my spirit, but I pray for you ... Ever since Dino and me came to Canada, you people have denied us the basic human right of Freedom of Religion.

"First in your court rooms where you would not allow the Sacred Pipe to be present. We can not swear on your bible. When the pipe is there, we speak the truth—but you denied us the right to use what the Creator gave to our people as a way to communicate with him.

"You denied us our way of life. For this reason we did

not present a defense. In your prisons, we have fought for the right to pray with the Pipe, Sweet-grass, Sage and Cedar. We have fought to have Sweatlodge Ceremonies. You did all you could to stop our words of truth. But you can not and that is why you are afraid.

"Now you have charged me with suspicion of conspiracy to escape with the use of explosives and firearms or weapons. Reality is that I have escaped before but I have never harmed one person in doing so, including the guards. And I have never used outside help which would be necessary to get the articles you accuse me of planning to use ... I intend to take every legal stand I can. I want you to justify your actions and accusations in a court of law. Because you can not.

"Ever since I was in what you call Canada, you people have put me in a higher and higher security rating. For what? What have I done? All I have done is speak the truth."

Gary Butler, John Drummond, Leonard Doust and James Bostic are being held in segregation and are locked in their cells 23 hours a day. The administration has told them that they want them processed into the Special Handling Unit (SHU) within the next three weeks. The SHU is a special unit designed, they say, to change a person's behaviour. In reality, the highest rates of suicide are within this unit. The conditions are totally inhumane.

It is time that we speak out.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: write in protest to

Robert Kaplan
Solicitor General of Canada
340 Laurier Ave., W.
Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5K3

Send copies of letter to:

The Human Rights Commission
257 Slater St.
Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5H9

James Lockyer, Attorney of Canada
439 University Ave., Ste. 1550
Toronto, Ont. M5G

Mr. Donald Yeomens
Commissioner of Penitentiaries
Corrections of Canada
340 Laurier Ave., W.
Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5K3

Mr. Vignola, Deputy of Security
same address as above.—he's responsible for making decisions as to who goes to SHU. He is new to the job so might be impressed by letters of support. His predecessor could also be sent copies: Mr. Savoie, Chairman

LETTERS



Reply from on high

(See KIO back issue)

To: Kick it Over
Re: "The Year of the Anarchist"

Thank you for your submission to the United Nations requesting that 1984 be declared year of the Anarchist. I regret to inform you that we are booked all the way to the year 2000.

Please submit your application in triplicate to the proper authority and when we get to it, it will most certainly be taken into consideration.

Thank you for the compliment. We are honored to serve as a "post feudal wart" on the development of total liberation ... first one person wants freedom, then the whole damn world wants freedom. As you may be aware, this is contrary to the aims and objectives of our organization.

We are proud of the recognition we have been willing to give Children, Women, and Disabled Persons in the past. It isn't our bloody fault that these people insist on going around and getting themselves raped, killed and crippled. As a matter of fact it's this damn anarchy and chaos that is to blame for the demoralizing of our societies.

We'll make 1984 year of the anarchist alright! Did you know that almost every country in the world has already made provisions for you chumps? ... prisons, torture ministries, internment camps, death squads, secret police, counter-insurgency teams, plans for systematic oppression/repression and neutralization ... Get the message???

We strongly suggest that you withdraw your application and save your breath. As you can clearly see, the odds against you are stacked. Why can't you people just conform and quit causing such a disturbance?

Sincerely,
The Secretary General

Sean's challenge

Dear KIO,

I've got hold of your recent issue. It's really great that you want to break down the role between readers and writers, this idea is very non-elitist. Now lets see if you can put it into practice. I want to avoid being a passive consumer of KIO and to do that, here are three poems which I hope you'll put in your magazine. You can pick all three or two or just one, depending on how much space you have. I hope you enjoy reading them.

The first poem is called Fuck This. Fuck This is a personal poem but a true one. It's about the time (a year and a half ago) when I was really into punk and I wore this great big white long sleeved cheesecloth shirt (similar to the one Johnny Rotten wore on stage). I wrote "anarchy" on the front myself and "good government is no government, power is corrupt" on the back of the shirt.

At this time I had a job, was paying my mother room and board. I had a bank account. My mother would not let me wear this shirt when I went over to cash this cheque. She said the people in that bank knew her and she did not want them thinking that she was not a proper mother, or that she didn't know how to bring up her kid. I'm sure this is old news to you, this is related to advertising and music bands who have to con- with the Sex Pistols. The public image is a false one at that. She also told me never to wear this shirt when relatives were coming over.

This may be boring for whoever is reading this, but my story is very relevant and significant. The family is where it all begins (it doesn't end there, of course), the values, attitudes, behaviour, obedience, all these factors come from the parents, or are shared (unintentionally) amongst the siblings. These things have tremendous influence on the children. The family (although I haven't seen anything written from the anarchist point of view) is where rules are made by the parents (it's so obvious here that rules are made at the top) for the children to obey.

Even in the teen years, the age when the adolescent is quite capable of taking part in the decision making process, rules are enforced and made only by the parents, and if you don't like it you can move out, is what most parents say. What every parent says is "I pay the rent around here, I pay for your clothes and food, and you'll do what I say whether you like it or not".

It's also my experience that when you try to defend yourself they tell you not to talk back to them. The parents are always reinforcing the idea of obeying and respecting authority. Never question authority, Heaven forbid; do that and they slap your hand.

Oh, the best one I remember is adults telling you to be afraid of the policeman; "Better behave yourself or the policeman will come and take you away". Well, I'll end it here, I hope you don't find this boring or useless.

NOTE: My best and personal favourite is I WANNA RIOT. I hope you put this in your magazine. I was in a play called IN-SIDE OUTSIDE, held at Queen Street Health Centre. Mudpie did an article on it. I played a skit in which I was a patient in a hospital and felt I was ready to go home, but Dr. Lockheart would not let me go. I had no say in the matter. The doctor had complete power over me. People came up to me and told me honestly that I played my part very well.

Sean Sobala.

Goliath wins

To the Editor and readers of Kick It Over:

We are all so deeply grateful to you for your support of the Herbicide Court case. By now you have all heard the tragic news that we not only lost the case, but that Justice Nunn has awarded the company costs and damages. The fifteen families who put up all their worldly goods as security to the courts so that our case might be heard will now be completely wiped out—unless we can raise money immediately for an appeal.

Last March June Callwood wrote that ours was "a David and Goliath Contest, but that this time Goliath has the slingshot." There was something of a "collective David" about poor farmers, small businessmen, and two Indian Chiefs challenging the Goliath of the multinational pulp and paper industry and the government to boot. From the time we got a temporary injunction in August of 1982 until the trial ended, it was a struggle to raise money. I know because I sold my land to pay a \$15,000 bill from Scott Paper which is one of the three companies financing the fight against us here. (Incidentally a boycott of Scott products is now underway. Those who are unable to help us financially might switch to another brand of tissue and at least not help Scott. Pass it on.)

During the first months of 1983 as we contacted the very most prominent scientists and cancer researchers in the world to ask them if they would testify for us, and they agreed to come—many not even charging us their normal fee, we began to feel less and less as though Goliath had the slingshot.

Once in court our witnesses proved the slingshot was on target and the ammunition was powerful. The leading cancer researcher from Sweden not only appeared without a fee, but his plane fare was paid by citizens of Sweden, who were deeply ashamed that chemicals banned in their country would be sprayed in Nova Scotia by the Swedish owned pulp company.

Altogether we had a dozen witnesses from as far away as Sweden and Vancouver, from Boston, Oregon, California and New York. From Manhattan Dr. Susan Daum (who had had first hand experience treating victims of an accidental herbicide drift of 2, 4, D and 2, 4, 5, T in Globe, Arizona) spoke with authority on the severe health problems associated with the spray. Billie Shoecraft died of cancer (but had her organs preserved so that they could be examined for herbicide contamination). One of Billie Shoecraft's neighbors, Dr. Daum reported, was now dying of soft tissue sarcoma. Others had liver abnormalities. As a result of that accidental drift, the people in Globe, Arizona went to court where they won a multimillion dollar settlement from Dow Chemical Company. We invited Dr. Daum to testify at our trial because she had given the medical evidence to the court in Arizona. Hers was powerful evidence.

When Goliath finally took the stand I felt quite jubilant. The old boy wasn't what he was cracked up to be. When the first witness, Michael Newton, a forester from Oregon, reported how he had taped a piece of denim soaked with 2, 4, 5 T to his wife's thigh and then sealed it with plastic to test whether or not the 2, 4, 5 T came out in her urine, there was a sense of revulsion throughout the courtroom. I sat in the court thinking, "We've won!" No one in his right mind would perform an experiment on another human being, much less his own wife. How could we lose after his testimony?

Then when their PhD in mathematics, Dr. Kenny Crump, made a mistake in calculations by a factor of 10,000, I marvelled again to find Goliath on the ropes. But the judge took pity on Dr. Crump, telling our lawyer that he was sure that if there was a disareement in figures a man with a PhD in math, with a calculator in his hand, obviously had the right answer. Our lawyer asked the judge's indulgence, and led Dr. Crump through the steps he had taken to get the answer he had. Then Crump admitted, "You're right. I seem to have made an error."

When another witness, Logan Norris was caught in a gross

misrepresentation, the compassionate judge told him it really wasn't important. Time after time whenever Goliath was on the ropes, the judge intervened on his behalf. I could understand the judge's compassion. It was embarrassing seeing the old giant stumbling around that way. Actually as I watched the compassion shown by the court to Goliath I thought that it was a good sign. The judge was a kind man. And eventually that would work in our favour, for we had put our lives and all our worldly goods in his hands.

We are still in shock over the decision. Justice Nunn has found the most prominent researchers in the world to be "zealots" and "unconvincing". Michael Newton, Kenny Crump, Logan Norris, and all the others were "responsible". Our case had "so little merit" that both costs and damages, an amount which could go over \$500,000 has been awarded against us.

We are desperate for help. Perhaps we never should have tried to challenge the pulp company. But two of our plaintiffs have severe chemical allergies. What choice did they have? Anyway our Minister of the Environment, Greg Kerr, was the very one who advised us that our "only hope" was to seek a legal injunction. So we followed his advice and now we are wiped out.

Let no one tell you this was a David and Goliath contest. There is something almost noble about that sort of thing. And as we all know in that sort of contest you have a chance. This is different.

Anyone wishing to help us appeal our case may send cheques to Herbicide Fund, South Haven, N.S. B0E 3G0. Tax deductible donations may be sent to the Forestry Committee of the Ecology Action Centre, Old Archives Bldg., Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.

One other thing, if anyone reading this letter would be willing to contact the government in Ottawa about de-registering 2, 4, 5 T we'd be terribly grateful. Most countries in the civilized world have banned it and in Canada three provinces have also. Here in Nova Scotia we don't want to be guinea pigs for another study, which will result in its eventually being banned, but only after there has been a significant rise in cancer and birth defects!

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,
Stephanie M. May
Margaree Harbour, N.S.
B0E 2B0

No 'party' line

... Some comments on your paper: Your treatment of Steve Ellams' letters was unconscionable. You had no right or "duty" to publish his personal letter to you. This is the lowest form of manipulation and authoritarianism a periodical can stoop to. I know the second letter was eye opening and clarified Steves' real position. We had a struggle in Alternative Bookstore against his ideas. If you wanted a fuller explanation and airing of the debate on pornography there were many ways it could have been done. In the future please consider that principles such as confidentiality and fair play are more important than exposing the sexist opinions of one person.

It seems to me that you still have not found your "voice" as a periodical. By this I do not mean a rigid editorial policy or "line". KIO just reads like it hasn't found its centre, even though you have published some good material. I encourage you to continue your work, KIO is appreciated by many people at the bookstore.

Love and Anarchy
Walter M. Heiss

Anarchos resignations

Dear Kick It Over:

Five members of the Montreal Coordinating Committee of the Anarchos Institute have resigned. The present Coordinating Committee felt that the distribution of our letter was an "inappropriate use" of the mailing list. Since they had already removed the membership files from the Anarchos' office, we were not in a position to dispute this decision. Therefore we are attempting to inform present Institute members and prospective members of our statement through the anarchist press. Our letter of resignation is available from:

P.O. Box 1415
Station H, Montreal, Quebec
Canada H3G 2W4

Sympto-thermal pregnancy

Dear Kick It Over:

Is natural necessarily better? I have some critical comments to make about the article you ran on sympto-thermal birth control. Three of my friends and myself have become pregnant unnecessarily due to this method. Women must realize that the only backup you have when this method fails is abortion. Some women ask their partner to use a condom when they are in doubt. Some women I know continue to use this method even though they have gotten pregnant once.

The book on the Billings method suggests that perhaps 30% of all women do not have regular enough cycles to use this method. I have a regular cycle but an irregular mucus pattern. Mucus flow can be affected by many things—light or absence of light, diet, liquid intake, stress, drug intake, and so on. Most of my friends do not lead a "normal" enough life in order to use this method. The room I sleep in has two street lights that shine in which effects my production of melatonin and disrupts my mucus pattern (see the book *Health and Light* by John Ott.). I used the sypto-thermal method to avoid other technologies of birth control and fell victim to the higher (and possibly more unhealthy) technology of abortion. After my abortion I contracted pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) which I am still trying to eliminate.

Another drawback of the STM is the requirement for women to limit our option of having sexual intercourse when we are fertile. I find that this time is often when I most want to have intercourse and derive the most pleasure from it. I recommend barrier methods (such as the diaphragm) for women who don't want to limit their desire to one partner, a normal lifestyle or certain times of the month.

Aneca Corvo

Illegal sex ...

There is something that I and many others risk prosecution for when we do it that most of you probably take for granted. It is having sex.

The present consent laws tell us that sex with or between, people under sixteen is illegal. Sixteen? I saw an American poll about three years ago showing that more than half the American population was losing their virginity before sixteen. So, this means that consent laws are in existence just as an attempt to try and force someone else's morality down the throats (excuse the pun) of young people.

Some changes were proposed by the Liberal Government almost four years ago. The bill they proposed would have removed from the criminal code sex between a consenting (straight) couple under sixteen if there was less than a

three year age difference between them and if they were not under twelve.

This is a timid first step but a first step nonetheless towards decriminalizing consenting sex. Why wasn't it taken? Because there is a group of men, mostly old enough to be my grandfathers, that delayed and maybe killed it.

Basically, even if this bill is ever passed, it would still leave a huge denial of sexual freedom. But, despite the fact that it only addresses a small portion of the problem, it would make a few headlines and force that apathetic majority to take a stand.

Regardless of however socially palatable sex between two straight young people is becoming, there is still a significant minority of young "deviants" faced with even further repression. I am one.

These are the many young gays, lesbians, bisexuals and "worse" that suffer a barrage of opposition from society and their peers that challenge our lifestyle. Other young people have made sexual choices which include multiple partners, partners from a different age groups, and even celibacy, are condemned as oddities.

Moreover, there is little if any community support for them. Even among the most progressive, open minded circles, there are so many people who cannot comprehend my bisexuality. When did my sexuality become some curse to be judged by others regardless of my age, be it eleven, eighteen, or seventy-five? (in fact it is somewhere between the first two).

Did you realize that one in every two gays/lesbians/bi's attempt or plan suicide? This pressure from society is forcing people to kill themselves. Shit! Another reason that I said I risk prosecution is that same-sex relationships are illegal until one is twenty-one. Twenty-one! Fuck! (Oops, here come the cops now). I suppose that you all know that sex in public places or even group sex are also illegal.

That's an awful lot of "illegals" just for the expression of love between two or more people.

Well, what can be done? First, think about it some more. You should then try opening up dialogue on this subject whenever it comes up, especially with young people.

And, how about trying to always keep as open a mind as possible, avoid using sexual labels, forget any stereotypes you may have (I hope I may have already broken some of these) and never presume anyone's sexuality, including your children's. Remember: everyone is equally a person no matter what their preferences or lack thereof.

If you are a young sexual deviant (that word has a nice ring to it), Strength To You! and I hope you get more support from the so-called progressives than I have.

Anon.



Mopping up porn ...

Dear KIO:

I can't imagine better evidence of *The Match*'s contention that "no one is fit to be a censor" than Mike Ryan's letter in your last issue explaining why he participated in seizing a magazine from the Librarie Alternative in Montreal. Let us all hope that this self-appointed guardian of women doesn't find any "offensive shit" in our bookstores or homes.

It would seem to me the best way to combat the spread of anti-women literature would be to refrain from consuming it ourselves, inform others of our opinion of its effects on both women and men, and try to create a sexually healthy community in which such material has no appeal. All else is coercion.

A. Zek, (Detroit)

Reviewer reviewed ...

It's hard to tell what Bruce Baugh attempts to do in his *Record Rant*, (published in the last issue of KIO) but I'm sure he's sincere. Unfortunately, a comparison of the review to the *Polkaholics* EP only shows the reviewer's lack of listening—and thinking—ability.

For example, his failure to recognize the form and or content of *Kill Yourself Now* (why wait for the war) as facetious, humorous, satire is expected I suppose, considering that he appears to have heard nothing but commercial radio hits since 1970.

Like most critics, however, he insists on transferring his own inadequacies to the object of the review. Of course he'll miss the point if all he has to go on is his grafted-on political ideology and

his 15 year old collection of Doors, Jefferson Airplane, and Zappa records.

I almost needn't mention the reactionism posing as feminism of the statue of liberty section of the review. I'm not sure exactly what "radical therapy" is, but if it is something for radicals like Bruce Baugh, to get them to think for themselves rather than spouting dogma at the first opportunity, I hope he signs up right away.

Which brings us to the heart of Bruce Baugh's problem, his lack of ability to listen to what is being presented in an open way. His is the type of writing one expects to find in the mainstream press, where, if you read of something being noisy, obnoxious and atonal, you rush out to buy it, knowing that if it upset them that much, it probably contains something of real interest.

We suggest that it is not enough to use terms like "capitalism", "mysogyny", and "sublimated gratification" while criticizing something from a safe distance.

In reading a lyric sheet, the meaning of a sung lyric can easily be completely misinterpreted, if you're listening to the guitar line, the percussion expressions at the same time will not be heard.

So it is that music with simple melodies, simple rhythms and simple words is fine for people with simplistic minds or musicians with simple ideas. At the same time, new music demands a new perspective from the listener, and this is often rejected by those with blinkered minds.

Bruce Baugh should stick to political theory.

Anon.

We highly recommend *The Nuclear Resister*

Box 37, Tempe, AZ 85281

It contains up-to-the-minute information on who's serving time where for what "crime".

WOMEN and THERAPY

by Pam Munro

I recently attended the *Women and Therapy Conference* held in Toronto. Yes, I know it, I'm one of the few female students who could afford it.

As expected, Freud and his followers (psychiatrists, psychoanalysts etc.) were exposed (alas, once again) for their true nature—violence against women. We heard that in most therapies, "patients" are placed in isolation and locked into dependency by "experts" who sit in silence, display little empathy, and never indicate having had similar experiences. Women are perceived as biological masochists and therefore are blamed for every atrocity performed on them. Women are drugged, locked away, shocked and sexually assaulted, all "for their own good".

Paula Caplan presented a fascinating workshop on "The Myth of Women's Masochism". Having lived with a man for four years and recently come out, I immediately identified with some of her observations of straight women. She observed that most straight women don't want to believe that men are changing very slowly, if at all. She pointed out that we are so accustomed to nurturing men that we are deeply moved and appreciative of any small sign of feeling sensitivity on their part. Whereas with women, we expect sensitivity and turn to them for friendship. Most men, even the more "sensitive" men, don't turn to each other for emotional support, they turn to women.

Many new and old ideas were generated at the Con-

ference. Sandra Pyke, in her workshop on "Gender-Fair Therapy" (or, as she preferred, Feminist Therapy), spoke of the need to demystify the therapy process by making explicit one's philosophy, perspective, and approach. Sandra reminded us that the client is paying for a service and has a right to know about that service in advance. The first interview should really be free. To be fair, the therapist should be prepared to help the client find another therapist in the case the client doesn't like her or his style.

Breaking down the power differential is an ongoing, often difficult process. The very nature of a "pay for service" relationship is one based on power. In response to this, Rita Nemiroff (workshop on "Empowerment") suggested five steps the therapist should take before even seeing clients. The overall question to ask is, "What am I doing, and for whom, and for what purpose?" Then work through the following steps:

- 1) List five ways in which gender, class and colour has shaped my life.
- 2) Prepare an analysis of my education formation, beginning with grade one. (Ex. what did I learn? how did I learn?)
- 3) Ask yourself, "Can I let go of the above? Am I ready to let go of the external validation of signs of authority?"
- 4) Ask yourself, "Where do I feel power? Where do I feel

Continued ...

powerless? And, "what are our true supports when we feel powerless?"

- 5) I want clients to have a better life. I must define what I mean by a better life.

To break down the power differential during therapy, Sandra recommended that the therapist be open to: answering questions about herself, expressing her own feelings, revealing similar experiences, revealing her weaknesses, providing the opportunity to the client to differ from or argue with her position, and viewing the client as the expert—after all, the client knows herself best. Sandra also suggested loaning money to clients and helping clients with outside projects, events, people or agencies.

Empathy is an extremely important component of therapy. One part of empathy is having the same experiences including class, ethnicity, age, life experiences,

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FIFTH ESTATE

The **Fifth Estate** is a high quality quarterly libertarian publication produced in Detroit. They feature coverage and analysis of peace issues, technology, precivilized cultures, and modern "life". They also feature a list of books and publications from a variety of sources—available from them for a nominal fee. Fifth Estate is located at 5928 2nd Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48202 U.S.A. Subscriptions are \$5 (US) for Americans and \$7 for others.

etc. The therapist can better relate to the client if she has experienced the same feelings, events and so on. For this reason, Rita argued that only women therapists should see women clients. Moreover, a therapist who sees women must be aware of and verbalize how she and other women are oppressed by men. (She mentioned to the one man in the audience that a male therapist who sees men should recognize and verbalize his and other men's privileges and power by virtue of being born male.) Without this personal consciousness and a political understanding of how women are oppressed, therapists can only perpetuate our oppression.

Women, from Women's Counselling, Referral and Education Centre, pointed to self-help groups as a positive, liberating alternative to all therapies. Self-help groups are based on non-hierarchical relationships, mutual support, feedback and an awareness of our context within the larger society. The consciousness raising groups of the late 60's and early 70's were based on these same principles. Consciousness raising, yesterday and today, is a tool for understanding personal and political reality in a new way. Its method is to search out the commonalities in women's apparently personal, individual experiences and to trace their political roots in the social organization of women's lives in a male dominated society. Many therapists are now starting to use consciousness raising as a part of their methodology. Based on my own experiences in both therapy and a C.R. group, I agree that C.R. should be a part of therapy, however, I firmly believe that **real** consciousness raising can only happen within a group.

**"We are against
all state tyranny
regardless of
which government
is responsible".**

Marie Louise Berneri

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FREE TO PRISONERS

Green's Bahro speaks in T.O.

by Ron Hayley

Rudolph Bahro is a major spokesperson for the West German Green Party. The Greens originated as a movement in 1977, formed a party a couple of years later, and garnered 6% of the vote in the most recent parliamentary elections. The German Greens have no affiliation with the recent "Green Party" founded in Canada, and are extremely diverse in their politics.

On October 1st, Rudolph Bahro, major spokesperson for the Green Party of West Germany, gave an informal talk at the U. of T. Faculty of Education building. While not a particularly dynamic speaker, Bahro nonetheless made a number of very interesting points.

Describing the arms race as the "tip of the iceberg", Bahro insisted that only by rooting out the whole mentality of domination (and not by contesting one or another weapons system) would it be possible to end the threat of nuclear destruction. The physical form of that mentality was the "industrial system" based on the ruthless conquest of nature. Describing both systems in East and West as identical in this regard, Bahro implied that Marxism could not provide the necessary critique of technocracy, because it was itself a variant of technocratic ideology.

Bahro further said it was time for the peace movement to abandon the role of "referee", tallying up who had the most weapons, and to constitute itself as a "Third Force". Asked if there was a place in the peace movement for pro-Soviet activists, Bahro said that to be for peace and to be pro-Soviet was a contradiction in terms—either one was unreservedly opposed to militarism, or else one opposed only the militarism of the "other side".

Originally a native of East Germany, Bahro was imprisoned for his book **The Alternative in Eastern Europe**. Saying that the "defencist" mentality in the East bloc countries was identical to that of the West, Bahro called for the support, by Western peace activists, of the independent peace movement in Eastern Europe.

Reiterating the Green Party's support for Solidarnosc, Bahro said that it would merely strengthen Soviet hegemony for the Polish people to place their faith in America. Citing his party's strict opposition to **both** superpowers, Bahro said that the downing of the Korean jetliner served to underscore his party's position rather than to put it on the defensive, as has occurred with the peace movement in North America.

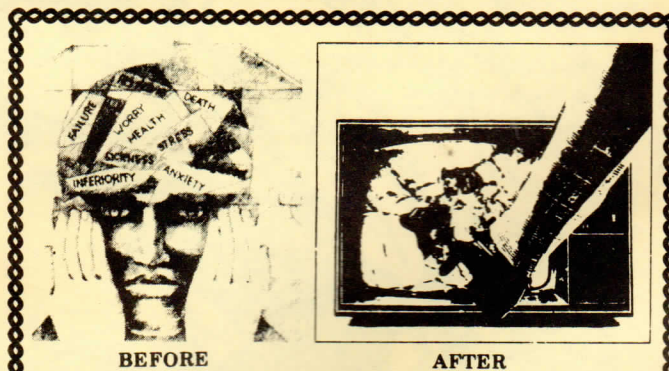
Bahro also talked about the importance of radical feminism as an integral part of an anti-technocracy analysis—citing its unparalleled contributions to illuminating the mentality of domination. Saying "people don't need jobs, they need food", Bahro said that a major concern before the West German movement was how to create an alternative infrastructure that would enable people to "drop out" of the industrial system.

Asked about the rumoured expulsion of several anarchists from the Green Party's ranks, Bahro said that the only incident he knew of was the one in which a party member splashed his own blood on a visiting U.S. general. He did not know whether this person was an anarchist,

nor—having been out of the country—whether he had been expelled, but he said that most of the people he knew had not been appalled by the action, but merely questioned its effect on politicising other West Germans.

Asked about the parliamentarism of the Green Party, Bahro replied that the Greens are closest in spirit to the European tradition of "libertarian anarchism", and that participation in parliament is seen as "creating a space for the multiplication of consciousness", rather than as a method for gaining access to power.

Bahro, it would appear, is a representative of the more radical wing of the party; forces like Petra Kelly (ex-member of the Social Democratic Party) are probably more serious in their parliamentary intent. Anyone wishing to submit a review of Bahro's latest—**Socialism and Survival**—is encouraged to do so. **Kick It Over** staff would be very appreciative.



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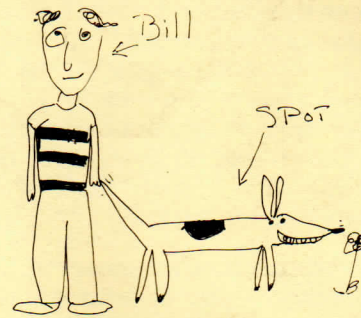
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BY
DON MAYNARD



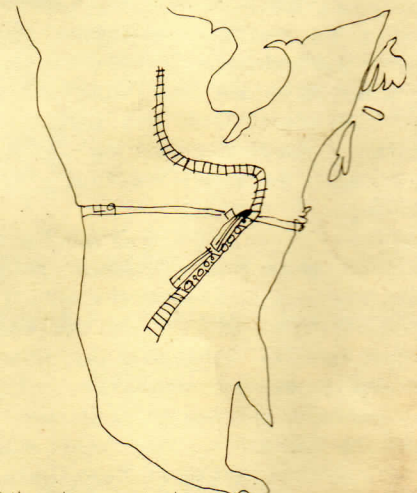
Bill was a small boy, he lived with freckles and parents who were much taller than he was. Spot was his dog.



One day a man from the government came to Bill's house and said that Bill and Spot had to join the army.



Bill's mom and dad said this was OK. they packed Bill extra underwear and sent him off to the army.



Bill and Spot took a train to Canada instead they were small but not stupid.



When Bill and Spot got to Canada they felt SAFE.



Bill got a job as an eskimo up North. Bill and Spot lived happily ever after for no particular reason.

The End

